

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 12, 2004

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women was held on April 12, 2004 in Room 830 of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California.

President Jernigan called a meeting of a Committee of the Whole to order at 10:09 a.m., followed by introductions. The following Commissioners were present for roll call:

President Jernigan
Commissioner Creary
Commissioner Gravely
Commissioner Morgan
Commissioner Mummey
Commissioner Rodriguez

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Commissioners Cooperman, Davalos and Perkins joined the meeting during the President's Report, constituting a quorum.)

President Jernigan reported the following:

- On March 31, 2004 she participated in a discussion of the Harvard University Generation Policy Project's Advisory Board on health issues related to retiring baby boomers. At its next meeting the Advisory Board will look at making recommendations on these issues. Commissioners requested that these recommendations be forwarded to the Health and Older Women's Committees.
- At an April 10, 2004 retirement ceremony, she presented a scroll on behalf of the Board of Supervisors to Barbara Hankins.
- Sheriff Baca sent her a letter describing his department's early release program for misdemeanor offenders. In addition, a March 26, 2004 *L.A. Times* article reported on the early release of inmates, which include spouse abusers and drunk drivers.

Expressing concern for the safety of women, Commissioners requested staff to ask the Sheriff's Department to speak to the Commission about the early release program.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MARCH 22, 2004

On motion of Commissioner Cooperman, seconded by Commissioner Mummey, and duly carried, with Commissioner Creary abstaining, the minutes of March 22, 2004 were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

On behalf of Treasurer Lesser, staff reported on the expenditures for the month of March 2004. The beginning balance for March was \$29,194.42; there were no expenditures; the income was \$170.00; and the ending balance was \$29,364.42. The April 2004 budget is \$9,788.14.

Commissioner Creary thanked Commission staff for sending her a plant last month in sympathy for a personal loss, and inquired why this expense wasn't reflected under March 2004 expenses. Staff will report on this at the next meeting.

President Jernigan requested the Commission to pause for a moment of silence in memory of the 19 American soldiers who were killed in Iraq last weekend.

STAFF REPORT

Staff reported the following:

- Tomorrow Supervisor Burke will introduce a motion to proclaim May 2004 as "Women's Health Month" and to encourage employees to participate in the 2004 Revlon Run/Walk for Women on Saturday, May 8, 2004 at the Memorial Coliseum.
- Supervisor Burke's Youth Job Fair is Saturday, April 24, 2004, 10:00 a.m. at Ted Watkins Park in Los Angeles.
- The Board of Supervisors has proclaimed Tuesday, April 20, 2004 "Take our Daughters and Sons to Work Day."
- The ACCW Conference is May 7-9, 2004 in Asilomar, California.
- There will be no Women in Action Lobby Day this year.

PRESENTATION ON REFLEX SYMPATHETIC DYSTROPHY

(Commissioner Becerra-Jones joined the meeting during the presentation.)

Cynthia Toussaint, For Grace, provided an update on her efforts to promote awareness of reflex sympathetic dystrophy, a chronic pain disease that commonly affects women. She cited several successes in promoting state legislation, including a February 2004 state senate hearing on the issue leading to a state senate resolution proclaiming February 2004 as Women in Pain Awareness Month. Her next goal is to raise national awareness of this issue by networking with officials from other states. She welcomed Commissioners to sign her petition online at her website address forgrace.org. She indicated that For Grace is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization.

President Jernigan thanked her for her presentation.

ESTABLISH NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR ELECTION OF 2004-05 COMMISSION OFFICERS

President Jernigan requested Commissioners from each Supervisorial District to volunteer to serve on the Committee, pointing out that committee members wouldn't be eligible to run for office because they can not nominate themselves through this process. The following Commissioners agreed to serve on the Nominating Committee:

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| First District | Commissioner Davalos |
| Second District | Commissioner Becerra-Jones |
| Third District | Commissioner Cooperman |
| Fourth District | Commissioner Mummey |
| Fifth District | Commissioner Morgan |

President Jernigan appointed Commissioner Davalos as Chair of the Nominating Committee. Staff will mail out Declaration of Candidacy Forms to Commissioners tomorrow.

CONSIDER APPROVING \$500 DONATION

On motion of Commissioner Perkins, seconded by Commissioner Creary, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved a \$500 donation to the Second District Multicultural Coming of Age Celebration for Foster Care Youth.

APPROVAL OF TICKETS TO AFMLA LUNCHEON

On motion of Commissioner Morgan, seconded by Commissioner Cooperman, and duly carried, with Commissioner Mummey opposing, the Commission approved the purchase of two tickets at \$250 each for Commissioners to attend the AFMLA Salute to Champions Luncheon on June 9, 2004 at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion in Los Angeles.

Commissioners Becerra-Jones, Creary and Morgan expressed interest in attending.

Commissioners requested that a discussion on the Commission's spending priorities be agendaized for a future meeting.

APPROVE RENEWAL OF ACCW ANNUAL DUES

On motion of Commissioner Perkins, seconded by Commissioner Morgan, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved \$50 to renew the annual ACCW dues.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Health Committee:

Commissioner Creary provided an update on federal funding for the King/Drew Medical Center and spoke on an article on the nursing profession. She announced the next committee meeting on Monday, May 10, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 830.

Domestic Violence Subcommittee

Commissioner Rodriguez reported that the committee is looking into whether recommendations based on domestic violence surveys of female county employees had been implemented in the county departments. She also announced the next subcommittee meeting on Monday, May 24, 2004 at 9:00 a.m.

President Jernigan requested staff to send notices of committee meetings to all Commissioners.

Legislative Committee: There was no report.

Media/Public Relations Committee

Commissioner Morgan provided an update on the Le Roy Haynes Center.

Older Women's Issues Committee

Commissioner Mummey announced that she will speak at the AAUW's Older Women's Faire at Pierce College on October 9, 2004. She then requested that the Commission agendize approval of annual dues for Women Against Gun Violence. She also spoke on a new Medicare law.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Yvonne La Rose announced that her articles were published in the American Management Association newsletter. Commissioners congratulated her and requested copies of her articles.

Genevieve Clavreul commented on the situation at the King/Drew Medical Center.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Rodriguez reported that she attended the County's Sixth Annual Multicultural Conference and the National Hispanic Women's Conference.

Commissioner Perkins announced the Public Policy Institute's graduation tomorrow at U.S.C. and also spoke on the President of U.S.C.'s lecture series featuring Desmond Tutu. For more information on the lecture series, access the U.S.C. website, www.usc.edu. She then requested that the Commission agendaize purchasing tickets to the Mary Magdalene Project's "Evening of Jungle Fever" event on May 15, 2004 at the Los Angeles Zoo.

Commissioner Creary announced the Prototypes Healing our Village Conference on May 6-7, 2004 at the Four Points Sheraton at LAX.

Commissioner Becerra-Jones announced she is a featured speaker at the free "Empowering Parents" conference on healthy lifestyles for children on Wednesday, April 28, 2004 at the Radisson Center in Culver City.

Commissioner Mummey announced an event honoring former Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan at the Beverly Hilton.

President Jernigan announced the Bobby Sherman Volunteer EMT Foundation's in-kind donation of services valued at \$2500 for this year's 5k Run/Walk for Girls at Risk.

MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA: There were none.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSIONERS

Ruth Jernigan, President
Yolanda Becerra-Jones
Roslyn Cooperman
Ruth V. Creary, Ph.D.
Karin Davalos
Wadie Gravely
Lila Morgan
Janet Mummey, Esq.
Barbara Perkins
Olivia G. Rodriguez

EXCUSED

Yvonne Mariajimenez, Esq., Vice President
Charlotte Lesser, Treasurer
Reiko Duba

UNEXCUSED

Sophia Esparza
Bonnie J. Lewis

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Khanh Nguyen, Executive Office
B. Eugene Romig, Executive Office
Twila Kerr, Executive Office
Steve Erickson, Executive Office

GUESTS

Genevieve Clavreul
John Garrett
Yvonne La Rose
Cynthia Toussaint